

## REMARKS

### Status of the Claims:

Claims 1, 2, 7-11, 14-16, 21-25, 27-28 and 31-32 are now pending in the present application. Claims 3-6, 12-13, 17-20, 26, 29-30 and 33 have been previously canceled. Claims 1, 15, 28 and 32 have been amended herein and are fully supported by the original specification (pages 5-7, page 12 and originally filed claims 2, 3 and 7). Claims 2, 7, 16 and 21 have been canceled herein without prejudice. Entry of the amendments to claims 1, 15, 28 and 32 and cancellation of claims 2, 7, 16 and 21 are respectfully requested.

### Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103 Huang/Moeller

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 7-9, 14-16, 21-23, 27-28 and 31-32 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang (US 6,342,578) in view of Moeller et al. (US 6,630,050).

Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 15 and 32 to reflect that the substituted cyclic monoanhydride is selected from the group of octadecenyl succinic monoanhydride, hexadecenyl succinic monoanhydride, eicosodecenyl succinic monoanhydride, n-octenyl succinic monoanhydride, nonenyl succinic monoanhydride, and mixtures of these; and to reflect that the amount of the substituted cyclic monoanhydride is from about 100 to 10,000 ppm.

Applicants respectfully submit that, with consideration of amended independent claims 1, 15 and 32, the current rejection under 35 USC 103(a), obviousness under Huang in view of Moeller et al., has been effectively traversed and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

### Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103 Huang/Pfaendner

The Examiner rejected claims 10 and 24 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang (US 6,342,578) in view of Pfaendner (US 5,693,681).

Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 15 from which claims 10 and 24 depend to reflect that the substituted cyclic monoanhydride is selected from the group of octadecenyl succinic monoanhydride, hexadecenyl succinic monoanhydride, eicosodecenyl succinic monoanhydride, n-octenyl succinic monoanhydride, nonenyl succinic monoanhydride,

and mixtures of these; and to reflect that the amount of the substituted cyclic monoanhydride is from about 100 to 10,000 ppm.

Applicants respectfully submit that, with consideration of amended independent claims 1 and 15 from which 10 and 24 depend, the current rejection under 35 USC 103(a), obviousness under Huang in view of Pfaendner, has been effectively traversed and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103 Huang/Moeller/Yamamoto

The Examiner has maintained a rejection of claims 11 and 25 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang (US 6,342,578) and Moeller et al. (US 6,630,050) in view of Yamamoto (JP Patent No. 06100767A).

Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 15 from which claims 11 and 25 depend to reflect that the substituted succinic monoanhydride is selected from the group of octadecenyl cyclic monoanhydride, hexadecenyl succinic monoanhydride, eicosodecenyl succinic monoanhydride, n-octenyl succinic monoanhydride, nonenyl succinic monoanhydride, and mixtures of these; and to reflect that the amount of the substituted cyclic monoanhydride is from about 100 to 10,000 ppm.

Applicants respectfully submit that, with consideration of amended independent claims 1 and 15 from which 11 and 25 depend, the current rejection under 35 USC 103(a), obviousness under Huang and Moeller et al. in view of Yamamoto, has been effectively traversed and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

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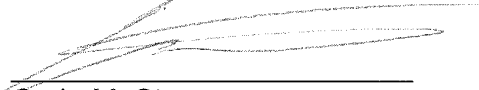
Applicants hereby file the attached terminal disclaimer regarding US 7,087,706.

**CONCLUSION**

For the reasons stated above, claims 1, 8-11, 14-15, 22-25, 27, 28, 31 and 32 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Application be allowed. If prosecution may be further advanced, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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